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A report and recommendations are presented concerned with the distribution of public school facilities in Moore County, North Carolina and the possible methods of district organization for the most efficient operation of such facilities. The nature of the educational services of the school systems is examined; projections of school enrollments made; and the existing school buildings analyzed with regard to safety, their present adequacy, and their adaptability to present and future educational programs. Proposals are set forth concerning the organization of the southern part of Moore County into a more effective school district plan. Recommendations are included for a long-range school building program for the southern part of the county under the various organizational alternatives. (FS)

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DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

SOUTHERN PART OF

MOORE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

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DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Southern Part of

MOORE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

February, 1965

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7 Holland Avenue, White Plains, New York

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February 15, 1965

Board of Commissioners
Moore County
North Carolina

Dear Sirs:

We respectfully submit herewith our report and recommendations on the distribution of public school facilities in Moore County and the possible methods of district organization for most efficient operation of such facilities.

In making this study for the Board of Commissioners, we have examined the curriculum of the school systems in the southern part of the County, projected the school enrollments in the area and analyzed the existing school buildings with regard to safety, their present adequacy and their adaptability to present and future educational programs.

Finally, we have set forth proposals concerning the organization of the southern part of Moore County into a more efficient school district plan. Included in the report are recommendations for a long-range school building program for the southern part of the County under the various organizational alternatives.

It is our hope that these findings and recommendations will be helpful to you, to the school districts involved, and to the citizens of Moore County in planning the future orderly growth of the public schools.

Very truly yours,

Francis G. Cornell
President

FGC:gb

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CHAPTER I

THE SITUATION

This is a report of a study of the distribution of public school facilities in Moore County, North Carolina, with particular reference to the location of school buildings in the southern part of the County. It has been requested by the Moore County Board of Commissioners as a consequence of anticipated new building construction in the southern part of the County under conditions of district organization which have caused a number of persons to raise questions as to the bearing which district organization has upon a desirable distribution of facilities in this area of the County.

Existing Districts

The schools of Moore County are administered by the County Board of Education as one school district with the exception of the Pinehurst and Southern Pines districts. Southern Pines, since before the organization of North Carolina public schools into county units in the 1930's, had been an independent school district and has continued with the status as a city system. Since 1936 the Pinehurst district has existed as a city administrative unit. All other school districts in the County have remained as a part of the Moore County school system.

The Boards of Education in Southern Pines and Pinehurst administer their respective school systems independently. However, the Moore County system administers all transportation for all pupils in the County. Also, the County levies a County-

wide property tax which is pro-rated to the three school districts, the County system, the Pinehurst system and the Southern Pines system on the basis of average daily membership. In addition to proceeds of the County tax, supplemental levies for current expenses are made by the two independent systems.

Pertinent to the issue in the southern part of the County is recent action which has created a consolidated district, Area III, out of the two districts under the jurisdiction of the Moore County Board known as West End and Aberdeen. For this reason, reference will be made in this report to the former Aberdeen and West End districts and at times to the Area III district which includes both. This area has also voted a supplemental tax levy.

In the organization of the County system there is, in addition to the Area III consolidation, two other consolidated areas. These include four districts consolidated as Area I and for which the Union Pines High School was opened in 1964. There were three original districts in what has been consolidated under the County system as Area II. A new high school is under construction and is expected to open this year for this consolidation.

Enrollments as of the fall of the current academic year in the four districts in the southern part of the County are shown in Table 1. The accompanying map shows the outline of the boundaries of these districts. As will be seen from Table 1 and the map, the greatest concentration of school population is in the Southern Pines district. Next in numbers of school children is the Aberdeen district. The West End district is the most sparsely populated area, its school children being widely dispersed over a considerable territory.

Table 1

FALL 1964 ENROLLMENTS IN SOUTHERN MOORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

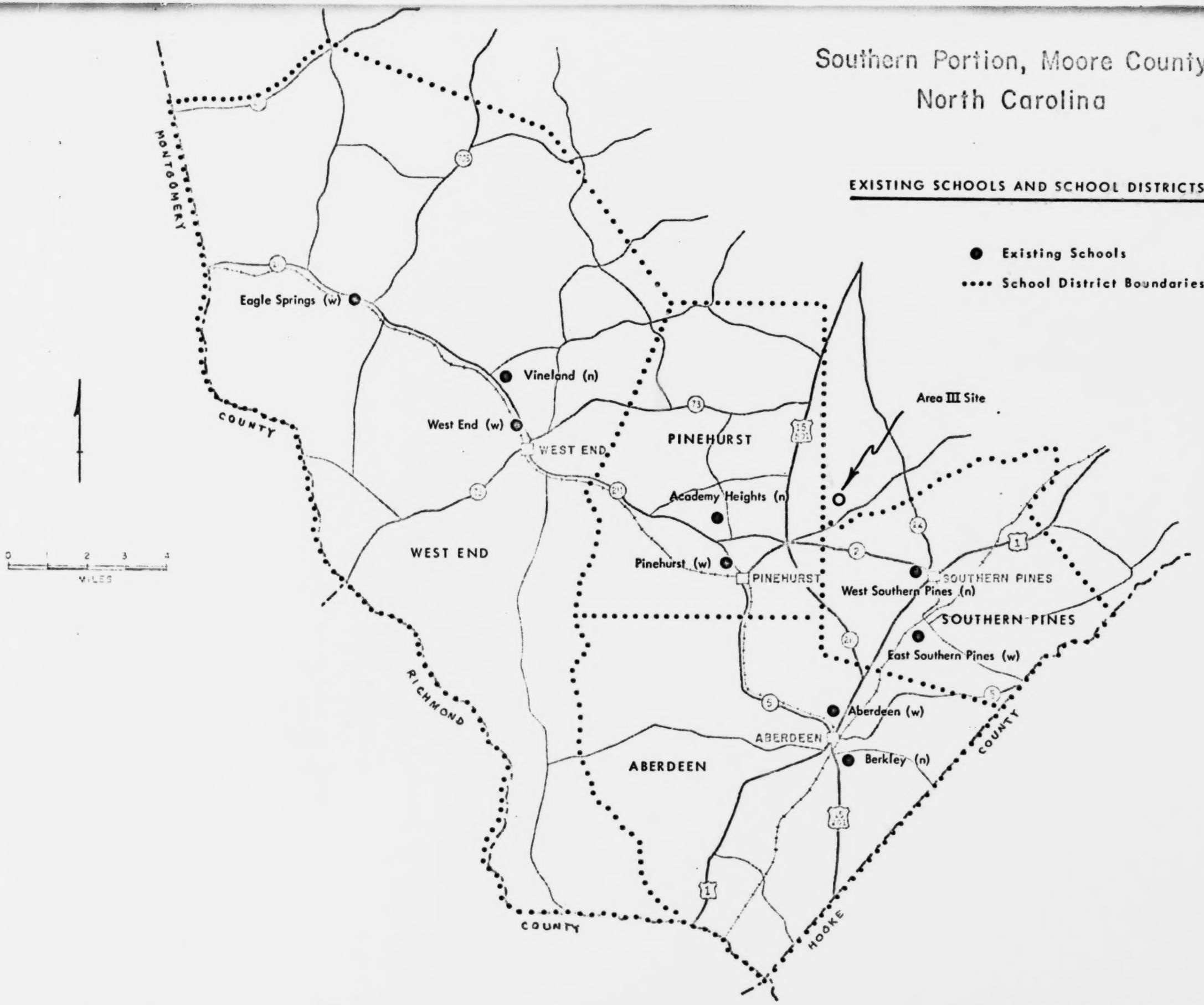
School district	Grades 1-8			Grades 9-12			All grades		
	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total
Aberdeen	664	428	1,092	282	111	393	946	539	1,485
West End	365	327	692	155	---	155	520	327	847
Pinehurst	305	249	554	135	106	241	440	355	795
Southern Pines	805	557	1,362	345	164	509	1,150	721	1,871
Total	2,139	1,561	3,700	917	381	1,298	3,056	1,942	4,998

Southern Portion, Moore County
North Carolina

EXISTING SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

● Existing Schools

•••• School District Boundaries



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The Distribution of Facilities

As shown on the accompanying map, each of the four districts under consideration are now operating schools. Aberdeen, Pinehurst and Southern Pines each operate two schools encompassing grades 1-12, one each for white pupils and another for Negro pupils. The West End district operates two schools for white children, one of them, the West End School with grades 1-12 and the other, the Eagle Springs School with grades 1-8. It also operates a school for Negro children, grades 1-8. Most of the West End Negro children in high school grades attend school in Carthage.

Construction Funds Available

For purposes of constructing new facilities in the County, a bond issue of $4,000,000 was voted in 1963. One million dollars of this bond issue was allocated specifically for use of the County Community College. The remaining $3,000,000 has been allocated for use by the three administrative units of the County, namely, the County system and the Pinehurst and Southern Pines systems in proportion to school membership. The amount allocated to the County school system has been further allocated for use in Area I to finish the new Union Pines High School, for use of the consolidated high school under construction in Area II, and the new Area III consolidation consisting of the West End and Aberdeen districts.

In summary, this allocation of the County bond issue is as follows:

Community College		$1,000,000
Pinehurst District		249,600
Southern Pines District		554,700
Moore County School System		
Area I	$500,000	
Area II	847,850	
Area III	847,850	
		2,195,700
		$4,000,000

Because of the proximity of the Area III district, as part of the County system, and the Pinehurst and Southern Pines systems, the issue of pertinence to this analysis is the desirability of use of the foregoing funds for the construction of facilities in three independent pieces, one in Pinehurst, another in Southern Pines and the third for the West End-Aberdeen district, Area III.

There is, as part of the consideration, additional funds which are expected to become available from a $100 million State appropriation for improving public school plant facilities. Allotments have been made as follows to the three existing administrative units in the County:

Moore County schools	$613,083.57
Pinehurst	74,929.63
Southern Pines	144,990.18

Alternative Solutions

The problem at hand is, in effect, one of providing the most educationally desirable and economically sound method of utilizing the aforementioned funds and other funds for construction of facilities to serve the school population in the territory. The survey staff has been requested to consider four alternatives and to discuss

the respective merits of each:

a. Three Districts. District organization remaining as it now is -- with Area III, consisting of Aberdeen and West End forming a consolidated district within the County system and both Pinehurst and Southern Pines remaining independent systems.

b. Pinehurst - Southern Pines Consolidation. Area III remaining as planned as a part of the County school system and a consolidated city administrative unit made up of Pinehurst and Southern Pines.

c. Pinehurst - Area III Consolidation. This would entail the Pinehurst district becoming a part of Area III in the County system and the Southern Pines district remaining independent. This would require a petition by the City Board of Education and approval by the County Board of Education and the State Board of Education.

d. Single System. Some form of reorganization of the area discussed above, namely, County Area III and Pinehurst and Southern Pines into one unified system for all grade levels or part.

CHAPTER II

EXISTING AND CONTEMPLATED FACILITIES

The matter of future distribution of school facilities in any area is partly determined by the expected distribution of school population, partly by standards of educational organization required for best meeting the educational needs of an area, and partly by the best use to be made of existing facilities. It is the purpose of this chapter to make an analysis of the existing and planned facilities in relationship to numbers of pupils to be housed.

Enrollment Trend

An analysis made for purposes of this survey took into account enrollment trends in the school districts involved over a period of years. This was for the purpose of anticipating future growth. A tabulation of fall enrollment over the past six years appears in Table 2 for the three districts, Area III, Pinehurst and Southern Pines. From these data it may be seen that there is no evidence of expected significant change in enrollment in Area III. Likewise, there has been little evidence of change to be expected in the Pinehurst district. The expectation in the case of Southern Pines, however, is somewhat different since there has been, over the past five years, a consistent increase in enrollments in the school district. From the standpoint of expected future enrollment, the best estimates which may be used for planning purposes appear in Table 3 for the three school districts.

Table 2

FALL ENROLLMENTS, 1959-64, SOUTHERN MOORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Year	Category	Area III	Pinehurst	Southern Pines	Total
1959	White	1,479	501	873	2,853
	Negro	824	359	581	1,764
	Total	2,303	860	1,454	4,617
1960	White	1,507	485	884	2,876
	Negro	835	359	620	1,814
	Total	2,342	844	1,504	4,690
1961	White	1,465	507	985	2,957
	Negro	811	353	638	1,802
	Total	2,276	860	1,623	4,759
1962	White	1,463	472	1,045	2,980
	Negro	839	349	672	1,860
	Total	2,302	821	1,717	4,840
1963	White	1,499	473	1,122	3,094
	Negro	907	360	711	1,978
	Total	2,406	833	1,833	5,072
1964	White	1,466	440	1,150	3,056
	Negro	866	355	721	1,942
	Total	2,332	795	1,871	4,998

Table 3

APPROXIMATE TEN-YEAR PROJECTION OF ENROLLMENTS

FOR SOUTHERN MOORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

School district	Grades 1-8			Grades 9-12			All grades		
	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total
Area III	1,029	755	1,784	437	111	548	1,466	866	2,332
Pinehurst	347	249	596	153	106	259	500	355	855
Southern Pines	1,088	695	1,783	495	248	743	1,583	943	2,526
Total	2,464	1,699	4,163	1,085	465	1,550	3,549	2,164	5,713

Existing Facilities

A summary of buildings in existence in the three districts appears in Table 4.

In Aberdeen there exists an old two-story high school building constructed in 1921, with nine classrooms, a home economics room, a study hall and a library, along with various offices. This building probably should not be considered in the long-range plan as it is old, outmoded and a fire hazard. The rest of the plant in Aberdeen should be continued in use. This would leave some 20 elementary classrooms and a shop building, a gymnasium and an auditorium. In addition, there is a cafeteria which should be retained. Only minor painting and renovation will be needed to put this building in acceptable condition. The three mobile units are temporary facilities not to be counted in the long-range plan.

The Berkley building should be retained with some renovations. The facility involves 19 classrooms, a gymnasium-auditorium combination, home economics, a shop and library spaces.

The Eagle Springs facility of five classrooms and library, cafeteria and auditorium-gymnasium should be left with the proper renovations needed to make the building acceptable for elementary use.

West End has a facility that needs some renovation but will be entirely satisfactory for use as an elementary building, and with some alteration of the shop and homemaking rooms these can be used as good elementary rooms. This would give an elementary building of 16-17 rooms plus other facilities of gymnasium and cafeteria.

The Vineland building needs little, if any, change to be very satisfactory as a 10-room elementary school with a cafetorium.

Pinehurst has a facility which could be used as a desirable elementary school with some alteration in the high school rooms. This should make a total of 22 rooms available with library, music room, cafeteria, gymnasium, multi-purpose room and auditorium.

The Academy Heights building with some alterations and renovations could be continued in use with library, auditorium, home economics, cafeteria, gymnasium and science laboratory.

The East Southern Pines school should be continued in use with only minor alterations and renovations. It has 43 classrooms including two in the fine arts building, two libraries, music, art, gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria, home economics and laboratory rooms. The fine arts building should be removed when space becomes available to take up the enrollment now housed in this building.

West Southern Pines has been adding outstanding new buildings. The original building and the home economics building should be abandoned and removed as soon as possible. A careful analysis of the home economics building, built in 1940, may determine it could be renovated to advantage. If so, this should be done. The buildings left would contain a cafeteria, 14 elementary classrooms with library, a gymnasium, multi-purpose room and seven classrooms with general offices for administering and supervising the school.

Contemplated Facilities

The Southern Pines Board of Education is building a six-room elementary

Table 4

EXISTING SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN FOUR SOUTHERN MOORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

District, school and grades included	Year of construction	Total classrooms	Special classrooms	1964 Fall enrollment	Acres of site
Aberdeen					
A. Aberdeen (W, 1-12)	1921	32	1 Home Ec.	946	8
Elementary addition	1949		2 Libraries		
Elementary addition	1955		1 Study Hall		
Shop	1952		1 Cafeteria		
Gymnasium	1949		1 Shop		
Auditorium	1955		1 Gym		
Mobile Units	1963		1 Auditorium		
B. Berkley (N, 1-12)					
Main building	1949	19	1 Home Ec.	539	10
Elementary Wing	1957		1 Library		
Gym & Shop	1953		2 Shop & Gym		
West End					
C. Eagle Springs (W, 1-8)		5	1 Library	132	10
			1 Cafeteria		
			1 Gym		
D. West End (W, 1-12)					
Main building & add.		17	1 Home Ec.	388	8
Gym	1949		1 Gym		
Cafeteria	1961		1 Cafeteria		
Ag Shop			1 Shop		
E. Vineland (N, 1-8)					
Classroom & Cafeteria	1953	10	1 Cafetorium	327	3
2 Elementary Classrooms	1959				
2 Elementary Classrooms	1963				
Pinehurst					
F. Pinehurst (W, 1-12)					
High School	1929	22	1 Home Ec.	440	35
Ind. Arts Shop	1936		1 Science Lab.		
Cafeteria	1952		1 Library		
Gymnasium	1958		1 Music		
Elem. addition &			1 Shop		
auditorium	1954		1 Cafeteria		
			1 Gym		
			1 Multi-purpose		
			1 Library		
			1 Auditorium		- 13

Table 4 continued

District, school and grades included	Year of construction	Total classrooms	Special classrooms	1964 Fall enrollment	Acres of site
Pinehurst (continued)					
G. Academy Heights (N, 1-12)					
High School	1933	13	1 Library	355	15
Cafeteria & Home Ec.	1956		1 Auditorium		
Gymnasium	1961		1 Science Lab.		
			1 Home Ec.		
			1 Cafeteria		
			1 Gym		
Southern Pines					
H. East Southern Pines (W, 1-12)	1947	43	1 Library	1,150	15
Middle	1955		1 Library		
South	1954		1 HS Lab.		
North	1961		1 Music		
Art Building	1930		1 Home Ec.		
Gymnasium	1950		1 Art		
Auditorium & Cafeteria	1950		1 Gym		
			1 Auditorium		
			1 Cafeteria		
I. West Southern Pines (N, 1-12)					
Home Ec.	1940	35	1 Voc. Shop	721	30
Cafeteria	1957		3 Home Ec.		
Elementary Building	1955-7-9		1 Cafeteria		
Original Building	1924		1 Library		
Gymnasium	1952		1 Science		
H.S. Classroom	1963		1 Auditorium		
Ad. Building	1964		1 Gym		
			1 Library		
			1 Multi-purpose		

N - Negro
W - white

wing to the West Southern Pines School and it will be occupied by elementary pupils upon completion.

The County Board of Education has purchased a 45-acre site for the new high school for Area III, Aberdeen and West End. This site is on the Airport Road about 1.2 miles from the traffic circle at the intersection of Routes 15, 501 and 2. It is located only a short distance from the site of the new Sandhills Community College, also on Airport Road. This school is being planned for an expected enrollment of 500 to 600 pupils. Its construction costs will be derived from the allocation of the $4,000,000 Moore County bond issue as described in Chapter I of this report.

It is to be noted that funds are available, in addition, for use of the Pinehurst and Southern Pines districts from this bond issue. In addition, the funds to become available through the State appropriation will make possible additional resources for new structures. It is the understanding of the survey team that there is no provision preventing funds, from two or more districts, either from the County bond issue or from the State allocation to be used for joint planning of one single facility.

Comparison of Enrollment Requirement With Useable Capacity

An analysis made of spaces available in all of the schools in the three districts, considering unsatisfactory spaces that should not be contemplated for future use, resulted in capacities computed for all districts. Since most of the schools in existence are operating as community schools, grades 1-12, some classrooms in these facilities are strictly secondary school or high school spaces, some jointly used by elementary and secondary school pupils and some self-contained elementary school

classrooms. For planning purposes a general capacity figure has been used which would roughly be suitable for considering a facility, an elementary school facility, a high school facility or a combined facility. This was by means of computing useable instructional spaces at the rate of 27 pupils per station. In instances where a school would not contain secondary school pupils in the future, it would be necessary to convert special rooms such as shops and home economics spaces to spaces generally not required in elementary schools. The capacity figures shown in Table 5 are thus general figures which may be interpreted as capabilities of the existing facility for either elementary or secondary use or both assuming abandonment of substandard spaces.

An examination of this table indicates problems of utilization of facilities in the area resulting from undesirably small school administrative units. First, it is to be noted that only one of the high schools has anything approaching the enrollment considered minimum for offering economically a sufficiently broad program to meet modern requirements. There are now too many small inefficient high schools operating in this area. This will be discussed further in a later section of this report.

In the second place, some districts are now burdened with the expense of excess space while others are burdened with a shortage of space to house students. This will be partly remedied by the Area III consolidation. Nevertheless, as conditions now exist for meeting future needs there will be space shortages for

Aberdeen, white and Negro pupils
West End, Negro pupils
Pinehurst, Negro pupils
Southern Pines, white and Negro pupils

Excess space may be expected with continued small enrollments for

Table 5

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENT AND USEABLE

CAPACITY OF BUILDINGS, EXISTING DISTRICTS

Enrollment category & capacity	Aberdeen	West End	Pinehurst	Southern Pines	Total
White					
Grade 1-8	664	365	347	1,088	2,464
Grade 9-12	282	155	153	495	1,085
Total	946	520	500	1,583	3,549
Capacity	540	594	594	1,107	2,835
Negro					
Grade 1-8	428	327	249	695	1,699
Grade 9-12	111	---	106	248	465
Total	539	327	355	943	2,164
Capacity	513	270	351	756	1,890
Total enrollment					
Grade 1-8	1,092	692	596	1,783	4,163
Grade 9-12	393	155	259	743	1,550
Total	1,485	847	855	2,526	5,713
Capacity	1,053	864	945	1,863	4,725

West End, white pupils
Pinehurst, white pupils

Even if one or more high schools were to be constructed to relieve expected space shortages, there would be considerable advantage in some method of sharing available remaining space for use of pupils in grades 1-8.

Aberdeen would still be short for white pupils (664 pupils, grades 1-8, and capacity for 540). West End and Pinehurst would have an excess. With expected continued growth, Southern Pines would still be short for white pupils. The pressure on both Aberdeen and Southern Pines would be relieved if the excess space in the other two districts could be used by redefining of attendance areas.

The situation is similar for the Negro schools as now separately operated. Again from Table 5, if Negro pupils only in grades 1-8 were to be housed in present school buildings, space in Southern Pines and Aberdeen could be used to meet shortages in West End and Pinehurst.

Moreover, if operated as a single unsegregated system, a net space of only about 1,000 capacity would need to be added and there would be more than enough of existing facilities to accommodate elementary school pupils.

Without question, methods of distributing pupils to schools across existing district lines would be more efficient.

Some of the factors relating to size of schools and school districts will be discussed in the next chapter.

CHAPTER III

NATURE OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The critical test of the small school district is in the character of its offerings on the high school level. Elementary school pupils, in general, attend school in self-contained classrooms. At the secondary level, specialization is necessary to provide the various types of programs necessary to meet the individual needs of all students.

Factors Related to School District Size

There is no magic single number indicating how many pupils should be enrolled in a school district of suitable size. If a school district is too small to provide fewer than 500 to 700 students at the secondary level, it will either offer an adequate educational program at excessive cost or will not offer the variety of subjects needed by the student body. The element of cost enters into the picture when highly specialized courses such as advanced science or the fourth year of a foreign language are given in very small classes. This means a low pupil-teacher ratio and high current cost per pupil since teachers' salaries are a major element of cost in operating a school.

Another consideration is geographic distribution of the population and population density. In parts of the far west, for example, there are so few children per square mile, that travel distances would be prohibitive to concentrate pupils in high schools of efficient size. The situation is not of this nature, however, in the southern part of Moore County. From the geographic center of the territory covered

by Area III, Pinehurst and Southern Pines, there is not more than 15 miles to the remotest corner.

Class Size

As indicated previously, the present high school enrollments vary from 111 in Berkley to 345 in East Southern Pines. All of these schools are attempting to provide as adequate a program of offerings as possible. They all offer the basic course of study requirements of four years of English, and the minimum courses required in Social Studies, Mathematics and Science. In order to provide certain specialized courses such as Physics and Advanced Mathematics, some of the small high schools find it necessary to offer such courses in alternate years to prevent excessively small enrollments. Nevertheless, the average class size in the seven high schools now operating is only 21.1.

It is necessary, in order to provide students a choice of courses to meet their needs, to have a number of classes enrolling fewer than 15 pupils. All of the existing high schools have such classes now. Approximately one-quarter of high school classes offered in the area enrolled fewer than 15 pupils. This is a basic element of cost which can be remedied by consolidation of schools. A distribution of high school classes in the seven high schools appears in Table 6.

It is to be observed that the consolidation problem is of two dimensions. One, that of separation of pupils by district lines and the other that of the separation of white and Negro pupils. When high school pupils split up into such small schools, educational opportunities are denied or costs are greater.

Table 6

NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

BY CLASS SIZE

School	Class Size								
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30+	Total	Average
Aberdeen	-	3	6	12	11	14	12	58	22.8
West End	2	3	12	9	7	5	3	41	17.4
Pinehurst		-	8	10	11	2	5	36	19.8
East Southern Pines	1	2	3	8	19	18	19	70	24.4
Berkley	-	3	8	8	2	4	6	31	20.0
Academy Heights	-	-	7	1	6	9	-	23	20.7
West Southern Pines	1	9	9	6	7	6	10	48	19.2
Total	4	20	53	54	63	58	55	307	21.1
Percent of Total	1.3	6.5	17.3	17.6	20.5	18.9	17.9	100.0	--

Variety of Course Offerings

That some high schools in the area are exerting an effort to provide special courses is evident by the large number of special courses, chiefly those with the low enrollments, as shown in Table 6. The largest of the seven high schools presently is East Southern Pines. It is operating a reasonably varied curriculum. However, the more specialized courses have low enrollments. In this school, for example, the following courses enroll fewer than 20 pupils:

Public Speaking	18
Advanced Spanish	10
Analytic Geometry and Calculus	15
Physics	16
Typing II	15
Business Law	12
Home Economics	6

A similar situation exists in the other schools. For instance, all of them offer Home Economics and in all cases classes are small, indicating a duplication of facilities and a waste of manpower by employing teachers for too few pupils.

The gaps in the program attributable to distribution of high school pupils in small units is evident from offerings existing in some schools but not in others. Only one of the schools, for example, has a program of Industrial Arts. The vocational programs are scattered - only two schools offering instruction in Distributive Education, only one offering instruction in Art and one in Mechanical Drawing.

All schools offer some form of foreign language. Several of them, however have only two years of a language, and find it necessary to have very small enrollments for the second year. A combination of all or some of these secondary pupils would permit economically the establishment of a modern foreign language laboratory,

a choice of several foreign languages with at least three years of instruction in each and staffing of highly specialized teachers for this purpose.

The Pertinence of Other Educational Services

The small high school not only struggles to provide course offerings but is seriously handicapped in providing other types of educational services essential to quality education. A high school of 200 or 300 pupils normally has one non-teaching staff member, namely, the principal. The principal of the school must provide all of the specialized services including guidance counseling, supervision of instruction, in-service training of teachers, pyschological services and the like - unless, as is sometimes necessary, teachers qualified in subject areas are assigned part-time some of these functions, such as guidance.

At a more economical staffing ratio, a large high school can justify specialized personnel and specialized services including educational guidance, specialized vocational education programs, pyschological services, special services in audio-visual equipment and materials, library service, remedial reading programs, curriculum development and special classes for exceptional children. Most of the foregoing service areas are not being adequately provided in southern Moore County at present.

The recent consolidation of the Aberdeen and West End districts should be a step in the direction of obviating this situation. Even so, for the territory as a whole, further pooling of resources for better education at less cost seems desirable. It is to be emphasized that this could come about not only through the combining of

districts but through a planned program of eliminating undesirably small schools solely on the basis of racial classification.

CHAPTER IV

ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

The question now arises as to the alternative courses of action. It is recognized that under the present district organization, decisions might have to be made by more than one authority.

Three Districts As Is - Alternative A.

One alternative, of course, is no further action than the recent combination of West End and Aberdeen into Area III in the County system. This leaves Area III, Pinehurst and Southern Pines to continue as they are. In this plan there could be expected improvements over the situation described in previous chapters in quality of educational offerings and in efficiency of organization as this relates to size of school. This would come about largely by the construction of a high school for Area III for which in grades 9 through 12 there may be expected to be enough white and Negro pupils to produce more than 500 high school students. This is the current program as a consequence of the formation of Area III.

The County allocation of $847,850 would provide such a building. Pinehurst would continue to be vested with enrollments too small for efficient operation of either a single school for whites and Negroes combined or, even more so, two separate small high schools. In the case of Southern Pines, it would need to increase its facilities because of expected growth, as may be seen by examining Table 5, by over 600 pupils. It would have enough pupils in grades 9 through 12, 495 white 248 Negro, a total of 743, to justify a high school program. There is the

Table 7

APPROXIMATE TEN-YEAR PROJECTION OF ENROLLMENTS

FOR SOUTHERN MOORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Enrollment Category	Area III	Pinehurst	Southern Pines	Total
White				
Grade 1-6	807	266	804	1,877
Grade 7-9	339	123	439	901
Grade 10-12	320	111	340	771
Total	1,466	500	1,583	3,549
Negro				
Grade 1-6	583	188	524	1,295
Grade 7-9	212	89	255	556
Grade 10-12	71	78	164	313
Total	866	355	943	2,164
Total enrollment				
Grade 1-6	1,390	454	1,328	3,172
Grade 7-9	551	212	694	1,457
Grade 10-12	391	189	504	1,084
Total	2,332	855	2,526	5,713

question, however, of whether this growth would be best accommodated by expanding facilities on existing sites or building a new structure.

The best solution would be the construction of a high school in Southern Pines for a capacity of 750 pupils. This would permit the housing in that district of elementary enrollment in the existing buildings.

At the rate of 130 square feet of floor area for each pupil and $11 per square foot construction cost, construction would represent $1,430 per pupil. Allowing 25 percent additional for equipment, fees, site development and the like, the cost may be assumed to be $1,787.50 per pupil. At this rate, the Area III building for 500 pupils would cost $893,750. The new structure for Southern Pines for 750 pupils would cost $1,340,625.

The disadvantages of this plan would be as follows:

1. Pinehurst would remain a small district with high school enrollments generally considered too small for efficient secondary school offerings.

2. The Area III district, awkward in size, has a population center close to the concentration of pupils in Pinehurst and Southern Pines and it would be necessary to locate its high school in a site such as that now chosen near the Pinehurst-Southern Pines districts or in the Aberdeen area. If this were to be a permanent solution, it would seem illogical because of the concentration of separate secondary schools within a five-mile radius.

3. The construction of additional facilities as provided under current allocations of construction funds would tend to be a piecemeal, uncoordinated development that would stand in the way of further coordinating the facilities in this fairly densely populated part of the County. This is the least desirable solution, namely, to do nothing. However, the step taken to create Area III is as much a step forward as can be expected without involving Pinehurst and Southern Pines in a sensible reorganization of the County.

4. This is not the best solution in taking care of Area III because there are not enough pupils for a 10-12 high school of sufficient size, and the 9-12 school would leave excess capacity for elementary pupils in existing buildings.

Area III, Pinehurst and Southern Pines Consolidated - Alternative B.

One alternative would be the consolidation of Pinehurst and Southern Pines. A summary of pertinent statistics appears in Table 8. This would have the advantage over the previous alternative in that there would remain no district with fewer than 500 high school pupils. The disadvantages in distribution of facilities for pupils in Area III would be the same as for Alternative A.

Pinehurst and Southern Pines could build a senior high school of 650 for pupils in grades 9-12. In time this could become a 1,000 enrollment school to accommodate both races. This might thus be considered too large. If this step were taken, waste would result in leaving excess space for elementary pupils. The Pinehurst-Southern Pines combination could build a three-year senior high school for grades 10-12 and convert one or more of the existing schools to junior high school centers housing grades 1-9, if necessary. However, there would not be enough enrollment to justify this for some time. Ultimately there should be near 700 white and Negro students in grades 10-12 in these two districts.

Still another possibility would be adding to existing facilties. The most complete high school in the entire area is now the East Southern Pines. It would be undesirable to add much further to its site.

There would be merit to Alternative B since it could lend itself to further consolidation which should ultimately come about and would permit a much

Table 8

EXPECTED ENROLLMENTS AND AVAILABLE SCHOOL BUILDING CAPACITY,

AREA III AND PINEHURST - SOUTHERN PINES CONSOLIDATION

Item	Area III			Pinehurst-Southern Pines			Total		
	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total
Capacity	1,134	783	1,917	1,701	1,107	2,808	2,835	1,890	4,725
1-8 Enrollment	1,029	755	1,784	1,435	944	2,379	2,464	1,699	4,163
9-12 Enrollment	437	111	548	648	354	1,002	1,085	465	1,550
1-9 Enrollment	1,146	795	1,941	1,632	1,056	2,688	2,778	1,851	4,629
10-12 Enrollment	320	71	391	451	242	693	771	313	1,084

better transition to a logical conclusion than continuing under present arrangements. If cooperative planning between Area III and the possible Pinehurst-Southern Pines combination could be worked out, one of the two facilities to be constructed could be planned to become possibly the senior high school for the entire area and the other a junior high school center of one or two junior high school centers which ultimately will be justified in the entire southern part of the County. In other words, this could be a transition step that would lead to results similar to the consolidation of all districts into one.

A good solution would be to build a 10-12 senior high school in the Pinehurst-Southern Pines district for 700 pupils and a new 10-12 senior high school in Area III for about 400 pupils that could become, if necessary, a junior high school center with future additions. At the same rates of cost, the Pinehurst-Southern Pines construction would be $1,251,250. An ideal location would be someplace near the juncture of Pinehurst, Southern Pines and Aberdeen. The cost of the Area III building would be $715,000.

The minimum net new facilities which will be needed under this plan may be seen from Table 8 to be space for 415 pupils in Area III and for 573 pupils for the Pinehurst-Southern Pines combination.

Area III-Pinehurst Consolidation and Southern Pines - Alternative C.

This alternative would leave the area with two districts, an Area III-Pinehurst consolidation and Southern Pines as is. Statistical information appears as Table 9. This would not give the best distribution of facilities since, to build for the

Table 9

EXPECTED ENROLLMENTS AND AVAILABLE SCHOOL BUILDING CAPACITY,

AREA III - PINEHURST CONSOLIDATION AND SOUTHERN PINES

Item	Area III & Pinehurst			Southern Pines			Total		
	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total	White	Negro	Total
Capacity	1,728	1,134	2,862	1,107	756	1,863	2,835	1,890	4,725
1-8 Enrollment	1,376	1,004	2,380	1,088	695	1,783	2,464	1,699	4,163
9-12 Enrollment	590	217	807	495	248	743	1,085	465	1,550
1-9 Enrollment	1,535	1,072	2,607	1,243	779	2,022	2,778	1,851	4,629
10-12 Enrollment	431	149	580	340	164	504	771	313	1,084

new Area III-Pinehurst combination high school facilities, there would be excess space for elementary pupils after high school pupils are drawn off either 9-12 or 10-12. If this were to come about, the best procedure would be to construct a new grade 10-12 senior high school which would take care of both white and Negro pupils at 580 total enrollment. This would leave surplus classroom space in grades 1-9.

Presumably the best solution for Southern Pines remaining alone would be as discussed above.

One advantage of this proposal would be that it would permit, someplace within the new Area III-Pinehurst combination, a location of a facility that could fit into future needs. This also could be a good transition step towards further consolidation in the area and joint planning for transition to meet population growth which will come about largely in Southern Pines. This has further merits since supplemental levies for current expense are the same in Area III and in Pinehurst so that a combination would be simple in case the voters in Pinehurst were interested in this combination.

The cost of this plan would be high, probably the highest, $1,036,750 for the Area III-Pinehurst school and $1,340,625 for the Southern Pines school, a total of $2,377,375.

A One-District Combination - Alternative D.

By far the best solution from the standpoint of best distribution of facilities, most efficient use of construction money, greatest convenience in meeting population growth and transitions in enrollment, is a plan which would place all three

districts, Area III, Pinehurst and Southern Pines into one administrative unit. An orderly plan for developing a secondary school program could be established starting with the construction of a secondary school for about 700, which would be expandable to as many as 1,000 in capacity. It would initially be a 9-12 school but ultimately become a 10-12 senior high school for the community, that is, the entire southern part of Moore County. This would be of sufficient size to permit economically providing the breadth of educational programs and services which are desirable.

Also, without regard to present district boundary lines, existing facilities could be converted by appropriate additions and renovations to junior high school centers. Ultimately two or three such centers would be desirable and could be of sufficient size to provide good education. The location of this high school could be near the juncture of Pinehurst, Southern Pines and Aberdeen which would be highly desirable as a unified solution to the entire area. The cost would be lowest since the major new construction would be $1,787,500 for the new high school, expandable to 1,000. This building could be constructed in phases and additional funds made available through the State bond issue would permit an orderly renovation of existing facilities and construction of other new facilities as required.

Summary

The course to be pursued will depend upon the interest of authorities and residents in the area and the weight to be placed upon various presumed advantages and disadvantages other than the logical development of schools in the area. How important would it be, for instance, for special charter districts to give up their charters in order to effect consolidation? New facilities comparable to the new

Union Pines High School can provide superior service to the population of the County if pockets of small geographic area and low enrollments do not stand in the way.

The Area III consolidation is a move forward in the area, but is handicapped by the existence of the two separate units of Pinehurst and Southern Pines. Without doubt Pinehurst could gain by becoming a part of a larger system.

Southern Pines is experiencing the greatest population growth and would benefit by having its adjustment to growth shared by other areas in the County.

In combining in some manner with other districts supplemental levies would need to be voted. Districts which would be required to make decisions on additional local tax authorization would need to weigh this against the possible economies of becoming part of a larger and more efficient system.

The best solution would be such legal action as would be necessary to place the southern part of Moore County entirely within the County system. The school population of the entire County is about 10,000. This is just about the right size for building a good school system.

Short of the foregoing would be such combinations as, combination Alternatives B and C if carried forward so as not to stand in the way of a future combination of the entire southern part of the County.